



## IN THE SPIRIT OF STONEWALL

# Unite against racist police terror!

**E**mbacing the authentic meaning of “the spirit of Stonewall,” last year in New York City, the Reclaim Pride Coalition organized a huge, militant, multinational, multigender, multigenerational, youth-led march reclaiming the rebellious essence of the 1969 uprising outside the Stonewall Inn in the city’s Greenwich Village.

Demonstrating the high level of political consciousness that exists within the LGBTQ2S communities and their organizations, the Reclaim Pride marchers’ demands reflected not only issues of immediate concern to the communities themselves — in particular, the ongoing violence against trans people, especially trans women of color — but also the militaristic imperialist policies of the U.S., like the ongoing attempts to overthrow the democratically elected pro-socialist government of Venezuela.

And now, a year later, that same high level of consciousness is visible in the magnificent mass mobilizations of anti-racist youth and their allies in every nook and cranny of this big country and, in dramatic shows of international solidarity, all across the globe.

LGBTQ2S activists are hard at work in organizing many of these anti-racist, anti-police actions. Adjustments made necessary by the coronavirus pandemic have made Pride organizing more challenging, but the movement is not deterred. In San Diego, for example, which has a huge Pride march each July, the march itself has been cancelled in the interests of protecting the community from contagion. But, in a significant act of solidarity with the Black-led uprising against police violence, the local Pride organizers have announced a ban on the participation by “law enforcement agencies” in all Pride activities.

Solidarity! As it should be right now, the focus of decent revolutionary people all around the world is on stopping the racist killer police of the U.S. from murdering people of color. But that struggle also raises basic issues of racial and class injustice: the need for free education through college for all; free quality health care, the lack of which has been exposed by the high level of deaths from COVID-19 among Black and Brown people; decent, affordable housing; and the right to good paying jobs for all. Deserving the special attention of all who seek a just world are the call for reparations for slavery and recognition of the settler-colonial status of the United States entity on Indigenous land.

The LGBTQ2S liberation movement and the Black liberation movement are natural allies. They were both born out of the same fury. They both began as a rebellion against continuous police brutality on an oppressed community.

In a 6-3 vote, the Supreme Court has just ruled that LGBTQ2S folk are covered under Civil Rights protections against being fired. This is a great victory and it’s no accident that two right-wing justices broke with Trump on this issue right now. It’s because of the Black-led rebellion. The struggle of the most oppressed elevates the struggles of the whole working class!

The Socialist Unity Party/Partido de Socialismo Unido and Struggle-La Lucha newspaper salute the growing unity between the LGBTQ2S communities and the Black Lives Matter movement. The goal of abolishing the economic, political and social injustices that plague the capitalist world can only be overcome by continuing to build these inspiring bridges of solidarity and struggle.



SLL PHOTO

## ATLANTA

Exclusive Eyewitness Report

## Community protectors block shooters

By Lizz Toledo

June 20 — There were people barbecuing, chanting and signing their name on a canvas at this sacred site on this beautiful sunny day at the Wendy’s where Rayshard Brooks was killed by Atlanta Police Department cops.

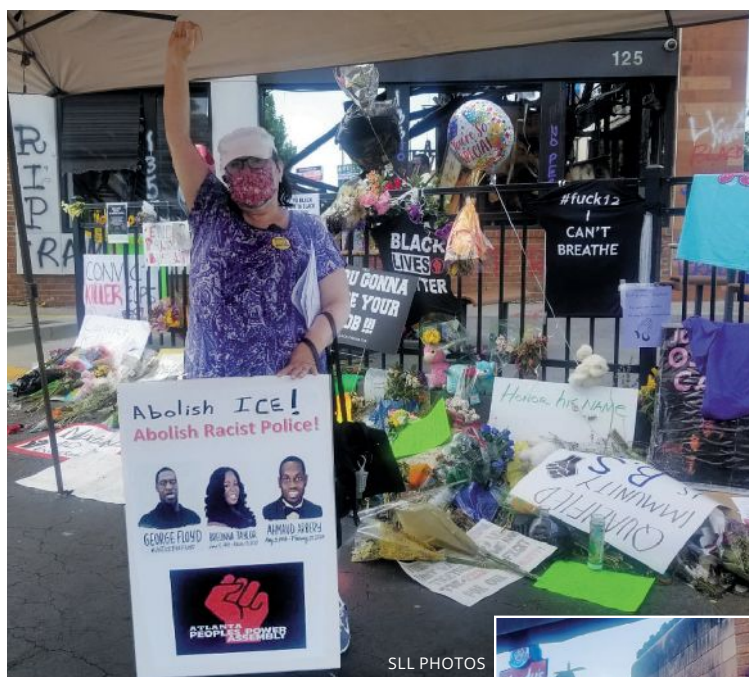
It was declared a cop-free zone by protesters last week, when they burned the Wendy’s to the ground in response to the brutal killing. The atmosphere was solemn as we walked toward the memorial that had been erected for Rayshard Brooks by his community.

As we entered the area, we were stopped by armed protectors, who wanted to make sure that we were Latinx. And then they waived us in saying, “They’re okay. They are with us.”

A white Dodge Charger suddenly stood still, burned rubber at the security point and took off. Within seconds, shots rang out from the car, while the armed protectors ran towards the danger, firing at the Charger and shouting to the crowd to take cover.

With no cops in sight, the armed protectors were providing safety for their communities. If it wasn’t for our protectors it could have been a massacre. But because they returned fire, the cowards inside the Charger took off with bullets chasing them. There was one injury, with one of the protectors being shot in the leg.

Witnesses at the scene stated that the exact same thing happened last night, when shots



SLL PHOTOS

from a grey car with a white man and a white woman inside were fired into the crowd, injuring one. Several shootings have occurred in Atlanta throughout the week of struggle for Black Lives, a struggle that has captured the hearts of the working-class and oppressed people worldwide.

Black young men, armed and protecting their community, was an awe-inspiring sight to see! It was truly electrifying! These young people are not going to stand idly by and allow cops or white supremacists to shoot us down without fighting back. This is what true community-controlled public safety looks like!





# Port of Oakland shutdown commemorates Juneteenth

All 29 ports on the West Coast were shut down on June 19 as dockworkers stopped processing cargo and rallied to mark Juneteenth by calling for an end to police terror and to honor the lives of George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Breonna Taylor and all the others killed by racist cops.

The epicenter was at the Port of Oakland, Calif., where the strike had been initiated by International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10.

Ten thousand workers and supporters rallied to hear labor leaders like Willie Adams, the first Black president of the ILWU, who said: "We're not working today. We're standing in solidarity." He said dockworkers in Genoa, Italy, had also stopped work in solidarity.

"You represent the potential and the power of the labor movement," Angela Davis, a longtime activist

and former political prisoner, said at the rally. She said she hopes that other labor unions will join in the effort of "abolishing the police as we know them" and "re-imagining public safety."

Other speakers included actor Danny Glover, who called in to voice support, and Michael Brown Sr., father of Michael Brown Jr., the 18-year-old Black man who was killed in 2014 by Ferguson, Mo., police officer Darren Wilson.

The protesters drove in a caravan and marched from the port to the Oakland Police Department headquarters and on to Oakland City Hall to rally again. The marchers wore masks and volunteers handed out water and hand sanitizer.

The mood in downtown Oakland was exuberant as cars honked, music by James Brown played and over 100 bikers sped up and down Broadway



'You represent the potential and the power of the labor movement,' said Angela Davis.

with raised fists. A troupe of drummers performed in front of City Hall starting around 1 p.m. as the crowd swelled to thousands more around nearby Oscar Grant Plaza, named for the Black man killed by Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) police officer Johannes Mehserle on New Year's Eve 2009.

Rapper and film director Boots Riley said in front of Oakland City Hall that the port work stoppage and other labor efforts would maintain

pressure for meaningful change." "We don't want to just ask for things to get better. We're going to say, 'It's going to get better or else,'" he said.

Gwendoline Pouchoulin displayed homemade signs that said "All Black Lives Matter" and a quote from author Alice Walker: "The most common way people give up power is by thinking they don't have any."

"I think if there's a moment to show up, it's now," she said.

— Lallan Schoenstein

## ILWU urges labor action to fight police terror

By Lallan Schoenstein

On Juneteenth, an estimated 10,000 people flocked to the Port of Oakland in California's Bay Area to participate in the "West Coast Port Shutdown." The Juneteenth rally started with longshore workers at the Port of Oakland holding a work stoppage. The massive group then marched to Oakland City Hall to hear from labor leaders. Watch the video at <https://tinyurl.com/ydbg8noy>.

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union called the strike for June 19 to shut down all 29 ports on the West Coast for eight hours. They demanded an end to white supremacy, police terror and plans to privatize the Port of Oakland, which would take away essential jobs for working-class African Americans in the Bay Area. They called for unions across the country to join them to take the lead in the fight against racist police terror.

Juneteenth commemorates the day that news finally reached Texas that the Confederacy had been defeated and that slavery had been abolished more than two years earlier in 1863.

Calling for labor to take action, Willie Adams, the first Black president of the ILWU, said: "Our union has a long history of confronting racism on the job, in our community and around the world." Trent Willis, president of ILWU Local 10, said: "The wealth gap for Black and Brown sisters and brothers is larger than ever in history. It's time to push back!" The Juneteenth action was initiated by ILWU Locals 10 and 34.

Clarence Thomas, a retired ILWU official and an initiator of the Million Worker March Movement, said: "ILWU Local 10 is in the vanguard of the labor movement protesting and resisting acts of racist police terror on African Americans and other people of color for more than a decade. On Juneteenth, the coastwide action at the point of production will demonstrate the power of the working class for radical change."

**June 19, 2020 @ 10 am**  
**WEST COAST PORT SHUTDOWN**  
**JUNETEENTH**

**THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM CONTINUES!**

**End Systemic Racism,**  
**Stop Police Terror &**  
**Stop Privatization of**  
**the Port of Oakland!**

**The Committee to Stop Police Terror & End Systemic Racism** was created by ILWU Locals 10 & 34. We are a committee of union leaders, rank and file members, and allies who believe that Labor cannot stay silent on racist policing and systemic injustice.

**ALL LIVES MATTER WHEN BLACK LIVES MATTER**  
 @juneteenthSPT  
 #juneteenthSPT

Part of a commemorative poster commissioned by Clarence Thomas, a retired, 3rd generation longshore worker, past secretary-treasurer of ILWU Local 10, and co-founder of the Million Worker March Movement, for the historic West Coast Port Shutdown on Juneteenth 2020.

The United Auto Workers said that its members and allies across the globe paused work for 8 minutes and 46 seconds to honor George Floyd on Juneteenth. According to United Domestic Workers, AFSCME Local 3930, San Diego labor union members joined in a Juneteenth Black Lives Matter caravan that took them from San Diego to the La Mesa Police Department headquarters.

Boots Riley tweeted that some Tesla workers in the Bay Area were doing a direct action at the Tesla factory on Juneteenth. Organizers of the Atlanta protests against the death of George Floyd and Rayshard Brooks called for a general strike of Black workers on that day, #StrikeForBlackLives.

### Coast-to-coast walkouts

The Juneteenth strike took place after three weeks of walkouts and wildcats that spread coast to coast. A rank-and-file strike wave against deteriorating conditions and an economic slowdown began early in the pandemic. Black and Brown workers, who were already struggling against the impact of racism, were more devastated than anyone. The police murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor happened at a catastrophic time. The national revolt against racist policing was ignited.

Payday Report says the protests against police terror have more than doubled the number of strikes reported. They have counted more than 500 labor actions since the protests

began. Payday says many strikes aren't reported and that the numbers are higher than they can track. "If the size of these strikes last week is any indication, Juneteenth will likely be the largest day of strikes."

When protests erupted in late May against the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1005 refused to help the police transport protesters to jail.

Local 1005 issued a statement in solidarity with the protests on May 28: "This system has failed all of us in the working class from the coronavirus to the economic crisis we are facing. ... This system has failed people of color and Black Americans and Black youth more than anyone else." Ryan Timlin, president of ATU Local 1005, explained: "The union gives you protection to exert your rights."

Bus drivers with support of transit unions in cities like Boston, Cincinnati, Dallas, Philadelphia and New York have refused to transport police to protests or to allow police to use their buses to take arrested demonstrators away from the communities where many of these drivers live. They say this is a misuse of public transit.

On June 9, work on U.S. ports ground to a halt. On the West Coast, the ILWU and on the East Coast members of the International Longshoremen's Association stopped work to mourn George Floyd for the amount of time that killer cop Derek Chauvin knelt on his neck.

Hospital workers and rehabilitation and nursing center workers took similar actions. Members of 1199SEIU, the country's largest health care workers' union, knelt for 8 minutes and 46 seconds during a vigil. They networked through #WalkoutForBlackLives and #BlackLivesMatter.

Research workers in scientific centers and workers at universities have joined the #ShutDownAcademia and #ShutDownStem strike. In the state

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# Donald Trump's June 1 coup attempt

By Gary Wilson

On Monday, June 1, Donald Trump called Attorney General William Barr, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley to the White House, where he got on the phone with the country's governors and proceeded to demand that they "dominate" the streets, saying, "Most of you are weak." He told them that he was putting Gen. Milley in charge.

Trump said: "We're going to take care of it. And we've got a number of people here that you'll be seeing. Gen. Milley is here, who's head of Joint Chiefs of Staff, a fighter, a warrior, had a lot of victories and no losses. And he hates to see the way it's being handled in the various states. And I just put him in charge," according to a transcript of the recorded talk.

The White House announced that Trump would give a speech later in the day. Although he didn't mention this on the call, there were numerous reports that the president intended to invoke the Insurrection Act of 1807 — used by President Andrew Jackson to deploy federal troops to literally massacre a major slave rebellion led by Nat Turner in Virginia's Southampton County.

The Insurrection Act gives Trump the authority to use the military to put down protests.

The afternoon of June 1 saw the unprecedented sight of Gen. Milley in battle fatigues, with Attorney General Barr, on the White House grounds in advance of Trump's speech in the Rose Garden. They appeared to be reviewing the troops which were lined up facing the protests in Lafayette Park across the street.

## Thousands and thousands of heavily armed soldiers

Suddenly, the whole nation witnessed the aggressive and violent action by 5,000 National Guard troops and federal agents, decked out in full body armor, to move the protesters out of the way just before the president came out to speak about dominating the streets, saying, "As we speak, I am dispatching thousands and thousands of heavily armed soldiers, military personnel and law enforcement officers."

Shortly after that, Trump led Barr, Milley, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and others over to a church where he famously held up a Bible.

A white National Guard commander called the standoff in Lafayette Square "the Alamo," implying that the White House was under siege. The Alamo was a fort in the colonial territory of Texas, then a part of Mexico, where, in 1836, white slave-traders from the U.S. fought the Mexican government for the right to own slaves. Mexico had abolished slavery.

The Washington, D.C., National Guard is sometimes called the "Praetorian Guard" because of their unusual chain of command almost directly to the president.

A secret federal police force also appeared on the streets of Washington. Heavily armed and dressed in full body armor, this force had no identifying insignia. The Washington Post reported that the unidentified forces were under the command of Attorney General Barr.

The next day, perhaps symboli-



Members of the D.C. National Guard "dominate" the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on June 2, 2020.

cally, the Lincoln Memorial was occupied by a full National Guard unit dressed for battle.

The 82nd Airborne, based at Fort Bragg, N.C., along with a military police unit from Fort Drum, N.Y., was headed to Washington.

It was stunning enough that the highest-ranking officer in the U.S. military was walking around the White House in battle fatigues, a man at war. That message was confirmed that night with the general walking around the streets as if he were commanding the troops in battle.

Trump didn't invoke the Insurrection Act, but according to a June 10 New York Times report, it was a very close thing.

In a press conference the next day, June 2, Secretary Esper said he did

not support using the Insurrection Act. When he ordered the 82nd Airborne to stand down and return to base, Trump countermanded it.

What followed over the next few days was a counter move. One high-ranking retired military officer after another, led by former Defense Secretary James Mattis, said they did not support military intervention. Mattis compared Trump's response to Nazi tactics.

By Thursday, June 4, Milley himself apologized for his participation.

Trump responded with a threat to send the military to break up the Capitol Hill Autonomous Zone (CHAZ) in Seattle, a threat he repeated on following days. The threat remains in place.

All of the military officers who

spoke out were careful in what they said, making their objections to only this specific instance of military intervention.

## Dictatorship of capitalism

Because the state is based on armed bodies — the army and police — and its auxiliaries, the prisons, courts and so on, even the most democratic bourgeois government has a hidden dictatorship of capitalism. This is not necessarily a military dictatorship. But military dictatorships are sometimes brought in to rescue a capitalist government in crisis, especially when there is a popular uprising.

Karl Marx wrote on bourgeois military dictatorships and the 1851 coup by Louis Bonaparte in France. Bonapartism, as the term was used by Marx, refers to a situation in which the military seizes control in a country sharply divided, with the military introducing selective reforms to co-opt the radicalism of the working class and peasant farmers. In the process, Marx said, Bonapartists preserve and mask the power of the bourgeois ruling class.

Mattis said of Trump that he "does not try to unite the American people." He then compared Trump to the Nazis, sowing divisions.

A military dictatorship, even one led by Donald Trump, is not fascism. Mattis invoking Nazis was a blur, not meant to be clarifying.

What is characteristic of fascism, as opposed to a military dictatorship, is the complete destruction

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## SOCIALISM & DIGNITY

# We don't need their cops

By Stephen Millies

When the Pilgrims invaded the Wampanoag nation in the 1620s, they didn't find any police or jails. Such cruelty wasn't necessary.

That's because there were no rich or poor in Wampanoag society. A community of equals doesn't need armed thugs with badges. Billionaires and banksters didn't require protection since these parasites didn't exist.

Three people are killed by police on every average day in the United States. Almost 5 million people are jailed every year, many of whom can't afford bail.

More than 10 million people are arrested annually by police armed with guns, clubs and mace. Almost any of these arrests can result in death or serious injury. Many do. All are humiliating.

The capitalist U.S. is a violent police state. The wealthy and powerful spend around \$200 billion a year to have over 800,000 cops on the street and keep 2.3 million people in prisons. Every cent of this money is stolen from the working class, both employed and unemployed.

## Cops push drugs

Violence is promoted by the capitalist state that pours drugs into poor communities. The "French

Connection" that flooded New York City with heroin was a CIA connection. Drug-dealing gangsters who beat up striking French workers and communists worked in tandem with U.S. spy agencies.

Corrupt cops were also essential. Nearly 100 pounds of "French Connection" heroin were checked out of the New York Police Department's evidence locker on Jan. 4, 1972, never to be found again.

Drugs help suppress communities from organizing for jobs, housing and health care. That's why CIA-owned Air America, with 20,000 employees, drenched the U.S. with dope during the Vietnam War.

"The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia" by Alfred McCoy exposed these crimes. The CIA tried to stop the book from being published.

One of the reasons the ruling class sought to destroy the Black Panther Party, assassinating dozens of its members, was because the Panthers fought against drugs.



Louisiana's Angola State Prison.

The Reagan administration created the crack epidemic to fund the contra terrorists who were trying to overthrow the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Crack served as an excuse to incarcerate hundreds of thousands of more people. Joe Biden was responsible for many of the laws that filled the prisons.

Banks make vast profits by laundering drug and crime money that's estimated by the United Nations to be as much as \$2 trillion a year.

## Tear down the walls!

Poor people in Paris started the French Revolution by tearing down a hated prison called the Bastille on July 14, 1789.

The U.S. has thousands of bastilles. Every one of them should be torn down, including the immigration concentration camps where children are kept in cages.

Many of these U.S. bastilles are labeled "correctional institutions." "Correction" was the term used by the slave masters to describe their torture of enslaved Africans.

Louisiana's Angola State Prison is on the site of a former plantation that had the same name. It was called Angola because that's where many of its enslaved African workers came from.

Albert Woodfox of the Angola 3 en-

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# Fight for Black Trans Lives!

On June 14, communities coast-to-coast stood up against murders of trans women of color by police and other bigots. At least 15 trans and gender non-conforming people have been killed so far this year.

In Hollywood, many thousands from the LGBTQ2S community came out with handmade signs and banners, expressing rage over the police murders of George Floyd in Minneapolis and Rayshard Brooks in Atlanta, and took up the epidemic violence against Black Trans

and Black Queer lives.

In Brooklyn, N.Y., an estimated 12,000 people packed Eastern Parkway in front of the Brooklyn Museum for the Action for Black Trans Lives rally and march, led by Black trans women. Many wore white to echo the historic NAACP silent march against lynching. Speakers included the sister of Layleen Polanco, a trans woman who died at New York's Rikers Island jail last year after prison guards refused to help her during a medical emergency. [📌](#)

## SOCIALISM & DIGNITY

## Trump's June 1 coup attempt

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of all working-class organisations — labor unions, civil rights groups, socialist and communist parties, and all the rights that go with them — the right to strike, to organize, to vote, free speech, free press and the other rights which have been the by-product of the class struggle of the workers and oppressed peoples. It is all of this as a whole that characterizes fascism, not just a single part of it.

The U.S. is in the midst of a great crisis, an economic and political crisis. Unemployment is in the tens of millions, at levels not seen since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Homelessness has reached record levels. For those workers who have jobs, pay is at record lows, income inequality at record highs.

Before the coronavirus shutdown, 44 percent of all U.S. workers were in poverty, not even a living wage. Almost 120,000 have died from COVID-19, with the spread of the infection and the daily death toll continuing. All of these have hit the Black and Brown communities the hardest, exposing the devastating conditions of racism in the U.S.

On top of that came the murder of George Floyd by the Minneapolis police, the police murder of Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Ky., and the lynching of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia. In response, an uprising for justice, against police terror, defending Black lives and rights has swept the country.

Trump could order U.S. troops to occupy U.S. cities to put down the uprising. But what he didn't consider was that those troops could say no. In fact, most of the soldiers probably support the uprising. Many of the soldiers come from the Black and Brown communities that are leading the protests. More than 55 percent of the whole population of the country say that the burning of the Minneapolis police station was justified.

General Mattis made a veiled reference to the problem of the troops. The soldiers could refuse to follow orders if they believed those orders were illegal.

The Pentagon has plans in place for a military occupation of U.S. cities. And a little more than a year ago they did a practice run. A Pentagon war game called the 2018 Joint Land, Air and Sea Strategic Special Program, or JCLASS, offered a scenario in which members of Generation Z, "anti-capitalist extremists," launch a "Zbellion" in the U.S. in the mid-2020s.

The JCLASS war game was recently revealed because the Pentagon played a visible role in Trump's move for military occupation of major U.S. cities. Secretary of Defense Mark Esper said on June 1, "I think the sooner that you mass and dominate the battlespace, the quicker this dissipates and we can get back to the right normal."

Apparently, the words "dominate the battlespace" came right out of the JCLASS war game script. [📌](#)

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dured over 40 years in solitary confinement there. His comrade, Herman Wallace, spent 42 years in the "hole." Wallace was released three days before he died of liver cancer.

Prisons are concentration camps for the poor. Ruchell Cinque Magee has been imprisoned in California for 57 years. That's twice as long as Nelson Mandela was kept behind bars in apartheid South Africa.

Magee is being held because he joined Jonathan Jackson in trying to free Jonathan's brother, Black Panther Party Field Marshal George Jackson. Jonathan Jackson was killed at the Marin County courthouse on Aug. 7, 1970, along with William Christmas and James McClain.

This attempted jailbreak was as righteous as the attack on Harper's Ferry for which John Brown, John Edwin Cook, John Anthony Copeland Jr., Edwin Coppock, Shields Green, Albert Hazlett and Aaron Dwight Stevens were executed.

California Gov. Ronald Reagan tried to railroad Dr. Angela Davis to the gas chamber for Jonathan Jackson's courageous deed, since he was one of her bodyguards.

We need to return Brother Ruchell and all the prisoners home to their families.

### Community control now!

Every real revolution frees prisoners and fires the police of the old regime. Karl Marx gave this de-

scription of the world's first working-class government, the 1871 Paris Commune:

"No more corpses at the morgue, no nocturnal burglaries, scarcely any robberies; in fact, for the first time since the days [of the revolution] of February 1848, the streets of Paris were safe, and that without any police of any kind."

There are calls across the country to defund the police. Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti is suggesting a mere \$100 million to \$150 million cut in the city's \$1.86 billion police budget. New York City's mayor, Bill de Blasio, is proposing an even smaller percentage cut to the \$6 billion that its police department spends.

These shell games won't stop killings by police. A genuine demand for defunding the police is offered by the December 12th Movement in New York City.

D12 member Iman Essiet stated, "It is time to redirect the millions of dollars budgeted to the police to community-based organizations and social agencies which are equipped to address issues such as drug abuse, domestic violence, children's behavior in schools, mental health, homelessness, unemployment and poverty."

The police have to be disarmed. Their guns, clubs, mace, rubber bullets, tear gas and pepper spray have to be outlawed. So do their patrol wagons in which Freddie Gray was killed via a "rough ride" by Baltimore cops.

Almost none of the police in the socialist People's Republic of China have guns.

The Black Panther Party raised the demand for community control of the police. The National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and its executive director, Frank Edgar Chapman Jr., are demanding this today.

The NAARPR wants an "elected Civilian Police Accountability Council that holds police officers accountable for crimes such as assault, murder, torture and racial profiling." Such a council could fire racist, sexist and homophobic cops.

The struggle for community control is a stepping stone to abolishing the police. A movement of millions in the streets can stop the killer cops. [📌](#)

## ILWU urges labor action to fight police terror

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of Washington, a general strike is being observed.

### Growing demand: Police out of labor movement

The demand to disassociate police unions from the labor movement is becoming a central issue. Marxists have long argued that police, as a repressive arm of the capitalist state, are not workers and their organizations are not real unions.

On June 6, the New York Times carried the story "How Police Unions

Became Such Powerful Opponents to Reform Efforts."

The Writers Guild East formed the first resolution to remove the International Union of Police Associations (IUPA) from the AFL-CIO, saying, "As long as police unions continue to wield their collective bargaining power as a cudgel, preventing reforms and accountability, no one is safe."

In a June 18 roll call vote, the Seattle Martin Luther King County Labor Council expelled the Police Officers Guild. A resolution by the Seattle teachers union called for

kicking the cops out, full stop.

In New York state, 120 members of Workers United, a union representing 9,500 workers, joined the growing call to kick police unions out of the labor movement. The union statement says that "Conflating our mission with that of police unions undermines our solidarity. White supremacy is central to our system of policing — therefore, we urge the labor movement to cut ties with police unions."

They demand that the AFL-CIO expel the IUPA, the labor federation's major police union. [📌](#)

## The Social Evolution of Humanity

Marx and Engels were right! Bob McCubbin [tinyurl.com/vwarcv7](https://tinyurl.com/vwarcv7)

This study augments Frederick Engels' 'Origin of the Family, Private Property & the State,' focusing on social/sexual relations, in particular, the changing social status of women.

## BLACK AUGUST 1619-2019 [tinyurl.com/vn3qvn5](https://tinyurl.com/vn3qvn5) commemorates 400 years of Black freedom struggle.

This book examines the construction of a racial capitalist venture — slavery — where the histories of African, Native and working people overlapped.



# Defend Seattle CHAZ/CHOP — No police-military intervention!

By Greg Butterfield

In a month of extraordinary rebellions following the police execution of George Floyd, one of the most significant is the takeover of a six-block area around the Seattle Police Department’s East Precinct, where the local community and activists have established a police-free Capitol Hill Autonomous Zone (CHAZ), also called Capitol Hill Organized Protest (CHOP).

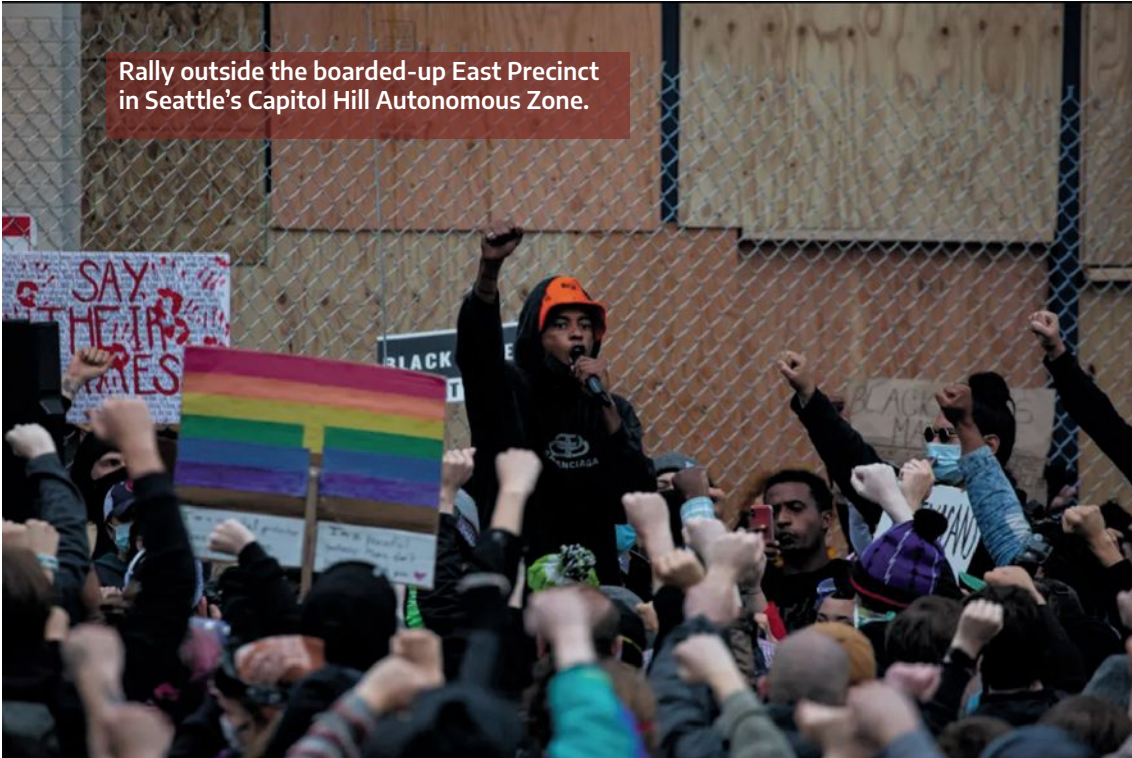
“Hundreds of protesters have taken over several blocks of Seattle and transformed it into the Capitol Hill Autonomous Zone ... helping to amplify nationwide protests while offering a real-world example of what a community can look like without police,” the Guardian reported.

“Protesters have filled several blocks and at least part of a park in the artsy Capitol Hill neighborhood of Seattle, after police abandoned their east precinct, following dangerous clashes between protesters and law enforcement.”

The people’s takeover of a small area of Seattle has sent panic through the halls of power, starting with the White House. President Donald Trump has made several threats to “retake” the city from the community, whom he labels “domestic terrorists.” Trump implied he will use military force if Washington State Gov. Jay Inslee and Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan don’t move swiftly to crush the CHAZ.

Trump’s threats have been echoed by right-wing media slandering Seattle Black activists with racist terms like “warlords” and warning about imaginary “antifa” violence. Fox News was exposed for using doctored photos in its rabidly hostile coverage of CHAZ.

In light of Trump’s attempted military coup in Washington, D.C., on June 1, when the president ordered the clearing of protesters from Lafayette Square by the National Guard and appeared publicly with Pentagon brass to threaten using the



U.S. military to put down anti-police terror protests, the movement must take these threats seriously and not dismiss them as Trump’s usual empty boasts.

### Demands of Black collective

A statement of demands from Black leadership in the CHAZ, “Collective Black Voices at Free Capitol Hill,” explains, “This is no simple request to end police brutality. We demand that the City Council and the Mayor, whoever that may be, implement these policy changes for the cultural and historic advancement of the City of Seattle, and to ease the struggles of its people. This document is to represent the Black voices who spoke in victory at the top of 12th & Pine after 9 days of peaceful protest while under constant nightly attack from the Seattle Police Department.

“The Seattle Police Department and attached court system are beyond reform. We do not request reform, we demand abolition. We demand that the Seattle Council and the Mayor defund and abolish the Seattle Police Department and the attached Criminal Justice Apparatus.

This means 100% of funding, including existing pensions for Seattle Police. At an equal level of priority we also demand that the city disallow the operations of ICE in the city of Seattle.”

The collective’s demands are broken into four categories: the justice system, health and human services, economics and education. They call for de-gentrification of the city and rent control; for hospitals and care facilities to employ Black health care workers to serve the community; for Black and Indigenous history to be elevated in the state’s education curriculum; and many other urgent needs of the city’s workers and oppressed.

### Self-organization against system

Earlier this year, Seattle was the site of one of the first major COVID-19 outbreaks in the U.S., devastating poor and oppressed communities and the health care system. But the city also has a history of militant struggles, from the 1919 General Strike inspired by the Bolshevik Revolution to the 1999 Battle of Seattle during the meeting of the

World Trade Organization.

There are many examples in history of the people setting up their own governing bodies and defenses, free of the police and other capitalist institutions — from Nat Turner’s Rebellion to the Paris Commune to the Russian Revolution and every revolutionary manifestation since. When the people rise, and begin to understand that the whole system is their enemy, they naturally seek to create and defend these forms of self-organization, which have been called communes,

soviets, people’s assemblies, etc.

Trump’s threats to unleash the military to “retake” Seattle reflects the fear in the ruling class that this modest expression of people’s power will inspire workers and youth to take similar measures elsewhere, especially coming on the heels of the burning down of the 3rd Police Precinct in Minneapolis.

The rulers are right to worry. An attempt was made to establish an autonomous zone in Asheville, N.C., though it was subsequently crushed by the police; while the governor of neighboring Tennessee issued a panicky warning against similar efforts in Nashville.

From Atlanta to Minneapolis to Oakland, and all over the world, people are watching, learning and drawing lessons from the Seattle experience as they have from Minneapolis and all the historic events of recent weeks.

The urgent need now is for solidarity to defend the CHAZ from attack, whether by Trump and the Pentagon or the “liberal” authorities in Washington State.

One, two, three, many Seattles! [red square icon]

# Justice for Rayshard Brooks protest blocks Atlanta mayor

By Lizz Toledo

June 15 — Today, protesters shouting “No justice, no peace, no racist police!” surrounded and blocked Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms’ car from leaving City Hall. This came after a weekend of rebellion in response to the murder of Rayshard Brooks by two white police officers in the city’s southwest, a poor working-class community.

The community’s militant response has already forced the resignation of Police Chief Erika Shields and the firing of the cop who fired the killing shots at Brooks. Like the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Rayshard Brooks’ death was captured on video which went viral.

Brooks fell asleep at a Wendy’s drive-through on Friday night, June

12. After being given a field sobriety test, a scuffle ensued when police tried to arrest him for allegedly driving under the influence — a law disproportionately enforced against Black and Latinx people in Atlanta.

The cops used a taser on Brooks and put him in a chokehold, similar to the one that killed George Floyd and sparked nationwide resistance. In fear of his life, Brooks grabbed the taser, broke out of the chokehold, and ran.

As Brooks ran, he was shot three times. Two of the shots went into his back and killed him. This has forced the Atlanta medical examiner to declare his death a homicide.

Even if Brooks was aiming the taser at the cops, as they claim, police in Georgia often testify in court to the fact that a taser is not a lethal weapon.



SLL PHOTOS

on. They can’t now claim that Brooks allegedly pointing a taser at them, while he was running away and at a long distance from them, justified his murder.

Abolishing this institutionalized racist police system is the rallying cry of the most oppressed. It has never been about our safety, but instead about protecting the property

and capital of the ruling class. It must be replaced with community-controlled public safety departments, specifically in the Black, Brown and Indigenous communities. Abolish the police, prisons and ICE! [red square icon]





# Caravan against police terror draws community support

By Dulce Garcia

Los Angeles — The recent death of George Floyd due to police brutality has caused a lot of people to unite through this very heartbreaking and difficult situation. It's not the first time this has happened, and the people want change. People want justice — not only for Floyd, but also for the many others who have lost their lives due to inhumane police officers.

On Sunday, June 7, a “Community Caravan Against Police Terrorism” was held. The caravan was hosted by Unión del Barrio and co-hosted by Struggle-La Lucha, the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice, Witness for Peace Southwest, the Socialist Unity Party, the Human Rights Alliance for Child Refugees and Families, and Frente Indígena de Organizaciones. In addition, over 40 organizations endorsed.

Hundreds of vehicles joined the historic protest caravan.

## Honoring Bunchy Carter

We started at Woodlawn Cemetery in Compton, where Black Panther Party leader Bunchy Carter, a victim of the U.S. government's Cointelpro program, is buried. Former Black Panther Harold Welton gave a speech. There were news reporters and other people recorded and shared the com-

memoration on social media.

The commemoration began with remarks from Celestina Bishop, who leads volunteer efforts at the cemetery to clean a peoples' landmark where Black slaves were also buried. Her grandmother, grandfather and other close relatives were buried in the cemetery.

She spoke about how she and her family have been affected by police terror. Her son, who has disabilities, saw the latest videos on police brutality and now has a fear of cops, whom he thought were heroes at first. Bishop also stated, “If we were to cut each other, we all would bleed the same.”

Before the caravan left the cemetery, I interviewed another of the volunteers who participated in the caravan. She said: “I want to support the community. To live with respect from the people who should be protecting us. I am indignant seeing these things happen to people from our communities. I came today to support this caravan because I don't want this to keep happening to our future generations.

“I want this to change people's views,” she continued, “and this time change the world and have a peaceful life,” referring to the changes she would like to see happen in the communities. She also expressed that she would like more respect from those who are called “hero cops.” She doesn't want her grandkids to grow up with the fear she grew up with.

## ‘The problem is the system’

The caravan started moving around 12:30 p.m., driving through Compton up to Watts. Moving through these neighborhoods, we saw many people outside their homes supporting the caravan. Some held posters while others just watched and recorded from a distance.



SLL PHOTO: BENIE RAMOS



## LOS ANGELES



PHOTOS: REVO GRAFIA

From Watts, the caravan moved all the way through Los Angeles along Central Avenue to the Los Angeles Police Department headquarters. We got to City Hall around 3:40 p.m., where another protest was already going on.

There, one of the hosts of the protest said, “We speak the power, we are here today protesting because you all want the power to speak,” referring to how the people want to be heard, especially with injustice that happens on a daily basis.

“The problem isn't our skin color. The problem is how the system

has created stereotypes for people of color. This, today, is how the U.S. should be: people being united.”

The U.S. has never been great. It has always had wars, racism, stereotypes, violence and corruption amongst the people. The people should be united, but for too long the system has put fear into people to unite when it comes to any type of situation.

Now things are starting to change.

Dulce Garcia (writer) and Benie Ramos (photographer) are journalists, high school students and activists who helped organize the caravan.

# Black-Puerto Rican solidarity on the march

By Greg Butterfield

New York — Thousands of people filled the streets of Washington Heights, Harlem and El Barrio (East Harlem) on June 14 for a militant demonstration of Black-Latinx solidarity against racist police terror.

Puerto Rican and Black Liberation flags waved side-by-side as people in these two proud neighborhoods, historically plagued by police brutality, economic neglect and racist gentrification, once again expressed their unity with demands to “demilitarize, demobilize and defund the police.”

Sunday had earlier been slated for the annual Puerto Rican Day Parade, one of the community's most significant cultural and political events. This year's parade was cancelled, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

But seeing the urgent need for solidarity with the Black-led uprising that began in Minneapolis after the police murder of George Floyd, freedom fighters in New York's Puerto Rican community called on the

## NEW YORK



community to take the streets.

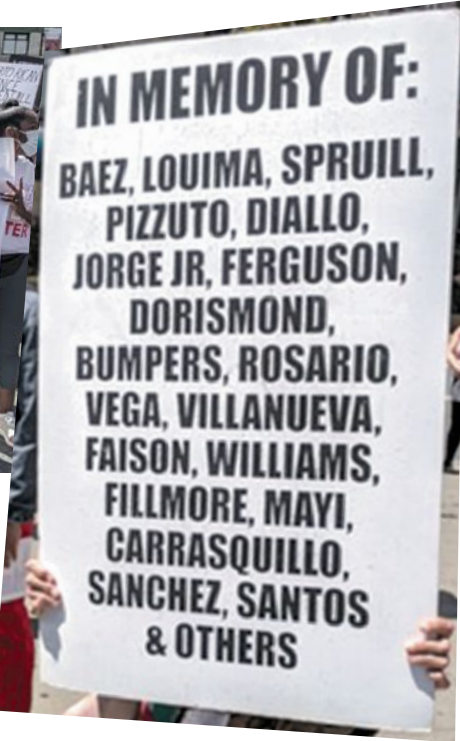
Signs and banners in Spanish and English, carried by community members, remembered not only Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Rayshard Brooks, but also the many Black and Latinx victims of the New York Police Department.

The march stepped off from Mitchel Square Park on 167th Street, near the Audubon Ballroom where Malcolm X was assassinated. It

gathered force as it wound through Washington Heights and Harlem.

As the roar of chanting marchers filled 125th Street, hundreds of people greeted them with a rally at the Adam Clayton Powell State Office Building. Speakers included members of the Jericho Movement for political prisoners. A banner hung at the base of the Adam Clayton Powell statue bore the logo of the Black Panthers and the demand: “Black community control of police.”

After a long standoff with police at the intersection of 125th Street and Africa Square, the march continued



SLL PHOTOS: GREG BUTTERFIELD

on to the People's Church in East Harlem. Supporters of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and Struggle-La Lucha carried signs in the march calling for community control and an end to cop crimes. ■



# Thousands march against racist police system

By Lev Koufax

On Saturday, June 6, the Peoples Power Assembly led a demonstration in Baltimore demanding justice for George Floyd and the abolition of the Baltimore Police Department. Other demands included not one more dollar for the police and complete community control.

Approximately 8,000 people marched through the city, followed by over 200 cars. Marchers started outside the Harriet Tubman Solidarity Center on North Charles Street.

The demonstration's first stop was the Baltimore City Jail complex. As marchers chanting "Free them all!" approached, hundreds of prisoners could be heard chanting back "Black lives matter!" and "Thank you." This demonstration is one of several to visit the jail complex in the last two months as local organizers have demanded universal testing and full personal protective equipment (PPE) for all prisoners.

From the jail complex, the march traveled east to the Douglas Homes public housing development. The Rev. Annie Chambers, a PPA organizer and former Black Panther, has been holding free food giveaways to the residents there since the beginning of the pandemic. Demonstrators wanted to show solidarity with the residents of Douglas Homes, who find their homes a target for sale to and redevelopment by wealthy Johns Hopkins University.

Next, the march traveled to the Baltimore City Police Headquarters. Marchers shouted "No justice, no peace! No racist police!" and "Money for jobs and education, not for police occupation!"



BALTIMORE



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The march culminated at the Maryland National Guard 5th Regiment Armory. Marchers chose this location to conclude because of Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan's plans to send the Maryland National Guard to illegally occupy Washington, D.C.

Speakers from the Ujima People's Progress Party and the Socialist Unity Party gave talks denouncing imperialism. This included a powerful message from UPP organizer Brandon Walker, who argued that one cannot be anti-racist without being anti-imperialist.

Socialist Unity Party national spokesperson Sharon Black talked about how the acts of war by the U.S. against countries like Syria and

Venezuela are echoed in police violence against oppressed communities in the U.S. 🇺🇸

# Protesters take to streets in solidarity with Minneapolis

By Kevin Niemann

In late May and early June, over 30,000 protesters from the greater Denver metropolitan area descended upon the Colorado State Capitol, Civic Center Park and the surrounding streets to demand accountability for killer cops and vigilantes in light of the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery.

The mostly young, diverse and Black-led crowds surrounded the State Capitol building starting May 28. Chants of "Say their names!" and "No justice, no peace! No racist police!" filled the Capitol Hill neighborhood as several different groups of protesters marched to block off I-25 near Colfax Avenue.

The protesters faced violence and threats from both fascist cops and white supremacists. On May 29, a woman drove into three peaceful protesters and fled from the scene, while the Denver police began tear gassing and shooting pepper balls in an attempt to disperse the protesters. They also gassed several residential neighborhoods.

The protests caused fear to the Colorado State Assembly, still in session at the Capitol building, which

announced that it would not be in session through the weekend.

Following another day of peaceful protests, police-protecting Denver Mayor Michael Hancock launched a curfew from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m., affecting residents' ability to get food, shelter or medical supplies.

On Saturday, May 30, despite the incoming curfew and several nights of unprovoked police attacks against civilians, 10,000 Coloradans took to the streets demanding justice. Signs reading "I Can't Breathe," the last words of George Floyd, and "Solidarity with Minneapolis, Louisville and Georgia" could be seen for blocks as a march went through the downtown area.

At the State Capitol, several thousand people laid on the ground for nine minutes, echoing the time during which police choked George Floyd. At the nearby amphitheater in Civic Center Park, speeches by several Black community leaders demanded a stop to the racist police killings of people of color.

"Say his name!" yelled a chant leader at the end of the speeches, followed by the crowd's fervent response of "George Floyd!" Then, "Say her name!" "Breonna Taylor!"



DENVER

SLL PHOTO: KEVIN NIEMANN

"Say his name!" "Ahmaud Arbery!"

The curfew was eventually extended to last the entire week, and the National Guard was deployed. However, angered protesters continue to occupy Civic Center Park and march nightly. This comes despite the continued insistence of the police on attacking the crowd unprovoked with tear gas and pepper bullets, causing several severe injuries and hospitalizations.

Similar gassings of peaceful protesters also happened in nearby Colorado Springs.

The people of Denver have had enough of killer cops and are de-

manding justice be brought to the murderers of Black lives. The Colorado Calvary statue in front of the Capitol, dedicated to the soldiers who committed the genocidal Sand Creek Massacre against innocent Arapaho and Cheyenne Indigenous people during the Civil War, has been liberated with paint saying "ACAB" ("All Cops Are Bastards"), "F\*ck racists" and "Stop Killing Us" on the pedestal and statue itself.

Denver stands in solidarity with other cities that believe the system does not work for us and must be thrown out completely. Black Lives Matter! 🇺🇸



## From high school activist:

# Getting radical during George Floyd protests

By Ripley Butterfield

I'm a tenth grade student from Brooklyn. For the past few months, I've been reflecting a lot on my political and activist identity, something I neglected for years. As a younger kid, I went to dozens of protests with my dad. I wasn't unaware in doing so — I knew that I was supporting people similar and different to me, those of varied race, religion, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and so on. I understood that police were bad, and were constantly hurting Black people. I held up signs and banners, posed for many photos and did my best to chant along with the crowd. Although I didn't completely know what certain terms I saw meant, like "communism," "socialism" and "anti-imperialism," the importance of my participation in things like worker's rights protests was not lost on me.

I began to stop attending these events when I was a pre-teen. At first, it just felt good to exercise some choice in the matter. I was old enough to watch myself for a few hours while my dad was at a demonstration, and it was a Saturday. Why go? This repeated again and again, and eventually I was more passionate about my right to refuse to participate in protests than any sort of activist work. It wasn't that I didn't care about social issues, rather I felt disconnected from them. I think, weirdly enough, it felt like "rebellion" to not fight injustice and oppression, having been raised by a parent who always encouraged me to do so. Thankfully, my thinking has changed a lot since middle school.

In the past year or so, I've started reading revolutionary works on my own and questioning the systems that public education teaches us to accept. I went to the highly publicized climate march in September 2019, along with many other high school students. It wasn't a great experience for me. The entire ordeal felt performative, and staged. I kept wondering, as wealthy white students were photographed and interviewed around me, where were these activists during events protesting U.S. invasions of other nations? Or inhumane treatment of refugees? The image of an attractive white teen holding a sign that says "Save our earth" is palatable to most media, I suppose.

### Passion for liberation

I have since developed a strong passion for the movement to liberate oppressed people, especially Black people. Like most teens, my identity has been a source of confusion, contention and pride, all at the same time. In understanding myself as a biracial Black lesbian, I have to fight for my voice to be heard, while considering the privileges I have. I need to defend myself in homophobic spaces and contexts, and in white or anti-Black ones. Yet, in fighting oppression it's imperative that I step down and listen to Black people who are impacted by colorism. I am mixed, with lighter skin, and that makes my abuse in this oppressive system much less violent than dark-

skinned Black people who are not of mixed descent. I also need to listen to Black trans people and be aware of my privilege as a cis person. Admitting this isn't enough: what do these actions entail for me? How do I constantly ensure I am centering the people in my community who are the least privileged? These questions have fueled my devotion to fight the racism that permeates the entire institution of the United States.

Of course, COVID-19 had smothered any opportunity to attend physical protests. I spent a good chunk of time in "quarantine" thinking about all the demonstrations I'd attend once it was all over. Or so I thought. Then, the video of George Floyd's murder exploded onto the internet.

I felt strongly that I should participate in my city's protests. On Saturday, May 30, I went to two: first, a rally in Harlem. The initial gathering, which happened on 125th Street, was kind of off-putting to me. Speakers made repeated references to "Black on Black crime" and the importance of keeping all protests peaceful. At one point, a speaker said, "It is one thing to march, but it is another thing to vote." The constant emphasis on voting as a primary means of progress made me uncomfortable — it seemed to diminish the work of protesters within an event full of them.

As I stood in the crowd with my sign, I and other younger attendees awkwardly shuffled when questionable statements echoed across the sidewalk. The rally started to wrap up after about an hour and a half after my arrival, and because I was unsure as to where nearby groups were marching, I left. I decided to go straight to the protest on Parkside and Ocean avenues in Flatbush, Brooklyn.

### Youth in streets

I walked out of the train station and into a huge crowd of protesters. The group spilled across multiple streets and into Prospect Park. There were a good number of people attending from their fire escapes across the street, too. I should also mention that every person I saw was wearing a mask to cover their mouth and nose, except for police. Ahead of me, comrades took turns standing on a makeshift podium and addressed the thousands of protestors. The speakers were all wonderful and came from a variety of backgrounds, but one impacted me especially. I wish I remembered her name — a young woman who introduced herself as a Brooklyn high schooler. She went on to explain the countless ways she and other students of color had been racially profiled. Her voice faltered with emotion as she denounced killer cops, and demanded justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade and others. The frustration and anger she spoke with resonated with me deeply.

The young woman declared in no



SLL PHOTO

uncertain terms that the only way to achieve universal justice is to liberate the oppressed and unite for the struggles of the working class. I was biting my lip a little bit when she announced that a communist society was necessary, because many white protesters in attendance appeared to be of a certain liberal-hipster-gentrifying type. I was afraid that this person, who I identified with and admired so strongly, would be met with angry shouts. Instead, there was immense support amongst the protesters. I felt, in that moment, so much hope for the broader movement towards liberation. Others had great speeches too: one highlighted the need to center and protect Black women and LGBTQ+ identifying Black people. A group of three young Black women led the crowd in chanting a quote from Assata Shakur. "It is our duty to fight for our freedom! It is our duty to win! We must love each other and support each other! We have nothing to lose but our chains!" and so on. We repeated this again and again, louder and stronger each time.

### NYPD surveillance

While standing on that street corner, I could see a group of police officers standing on top of a building opposite me. This was no shock. However, someone near me motioned to the crowd to look up — the cops were flying a drone just above our heads. It shouldn't have been so startling considering the amount of surveillance the NYPD conducts on a day-to-day basis in New York, when protests aren't even occurring. I still felt deeply unsettled knowing I was being watched so closely.

As we started to march down Parkside Avenue, thousands chanted "No justice, no peace! Fuck these racist-ass police!" Many protesters offered food and water, as well as personal protective equipment (PPE) to those who needed it. As we moved along, local residents of Flatbush showed support from their cars and the sidewalks. A bus driver in a stalled B41 bus, who was a Black woman, honked the horn in time with our chants and raised her fist.

The group erupted in cheers and applause at this and other acts of solidarity.

The protesting experience was one unlike any I can remember. Tips I had read online in activist resources really came into play — staying tight at corners, moving quickly and confidently, and avoiding police interaction at all costs. The cops were running alongside us in groups of five or six, rushing to barricade every cross street they could. A lot of younger protesters seemed to get very nervous watching them act so ferociously, but the organizers did a good job keeping everyone moving. At intersections, white demonstrators formed human chains to create a barrier between officers in riot gear and the main body of protesters, who were mostly Black and Brown youth.

I marched a little over an hour. In that time we dominated many major streets in addition to Parkside Avenue: Flatbush, Church and Bedford avenues are just a few. I didn't witness any major conflict between police and protesters until I was leaving. By that time, they had managed to separate the march into three or four different groups, and it seemed as though each was starting to be cornered.

I was a bit anxious heading home alone. I kept finding myself on blocks lined with police cars and helicopters seemed to be approaching from all directions. I passed by a bloodied protester being treated by street medics, and later stumbled upon a blockaded group on a residential block. I had to stop and watch for a moment — dozens and dozens of police cars sped onto this street and stopped in a frighteningly militant formation. Officers wielding batons and shields were sprinting out of their vehicles and towards the demonstrators, who were standing and chanting the names of police brutality victims. A helicopter lowered itself until it was practically touching the people protesting, causing dangerous whirlwinds and flying dirt. The group held strong, though. I would have joined in resistance if my parents weren't urging me to go home.

This was all before 6:30 p.m. I found out later that evening that violent arrests started very soon after my departure. This march was also the one in which two NYPD SUVs ran straight into a crowd of protesters. Video footage of that awful moment has been seen across the world at this point. Clearly, the NYPD and all of the other police departments in the United States do not exist to "protect and serve" the people. They are actively harming and killing oppressed communities.

I'm so glad that I attended these recent protests. I will no doubt go to many more in the future. Anything I can contribute to the dismantling of the police state, and of every single racist institution that makes up this country, is worth doing.

Read the full article at [tinyurl.com/y8rtd577](https://tinyurl.com/y8rtd577).



# Black socialist leader: ‘Demands must clarify our reality’

By John Parker

These words are inspired by Joe Biden telling us what it is to be Black.

You see, not all Black folk look or think alike. And not every organization will have the same political analysis of the events before our eyes. Now, we respect all of those honest organizations that hold different views on how we can go about liberating ourselves, and we respect your right to choose what organizations you believe tell more of the truth as you see it. And we encourage you to find out and participate in the activities of all honest organizations to find what best fits.

So don't let anyone tell you not to attend a demonstration from any honest organization. No one organization owns the movement, nor any issue. Yes, if it's a Black issue, then Black organizations should take the lead — but there are more than a few, and just like we don't all look alike, neither do our organizations.

I'm a member of the Socialist Unity Party and its Black Caucus, which is a member organization of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. You'd be surprised at how many Black socialists and communists there are, like George Jackson, a Black Panther and political prisoner who was assassinated by the pigs. I mention George Jackson because we have to begin to truly honor our ancestors by studying them and the people they studied.

In regards to unity, we must get serious and, like Jackson, study Amílcar Cabral, the African communist revolutionary liberator of Guinea-Bissau and his skillful guidance for building the unity of the entire working class.

Now, some organizations or church leaders (not all church leaders, mind you) will tell you to denounce or strongly condemn our youth if, in the course of their displays of anger, they happen to vandalize or take back some of the wealth that is stolen from them 24/7 by this capitalist system and the corporations that exploit them.

I and the Black folks I associate with believe that the vandalism and so-called looting are created by conditions that these youth did not create. See, the rebellion that oppression inspires is not going to always look pretty, but it carries a message of warning to the powers that be, an essential message that has the power to push them back. The monopoly corporations that run this country and own the politicians like Trump and Biden are afraid of those rebellions because it challenges their right to rule over us.

When the four cops finally got charged — was that from us begging? No, it happened after a Minneapolis police precinct got burned to the ground.

## Disarm the police

So I'm not one of those Black leaders who condemn our youth because their messages or actions may not be perfect. I and the Black folk I associate with applaud them and will do everything we can to amplify their message and give them a platform and guide them as well toward a revolutionary direction that is not confined by the ideological limitations that this system dictates.

There are some organizations that are happy to replace one treacherous Black official cop with another cop, or are happy to hug or kneel with or include pigs in their actions, or make demands that are so weak they can easily be wiggled out of.

I and the Black organizations I associate with don't want demands that give Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti — who praises the attack dogs in blue he sics on us — too much wiggle room. Because when the politicians have too much wiggle room, they use it to wiggle a noose around our necks.

There's a shell game going on right now with Garcetti's budget. See, he knows in this moment he'll need to give an appearance of compromise, so he's already figured out the small pittance he'll give away that still allows business as usual. A couple hundred million dollars from a \$2 billion or more budget is nothing,



PHOTO: UNIÓN DEL BARRIO

John Parker (right, in white shirt) speaks at press conference announcing community caravan against police brutality, June 4.

ing, because it leaves plenty of money for the purchase of the bullet that is aimed at my son's head, or your daughter's.

This is an existential threat — this is life and death and the only way to stop that bullet from killing my son or your daughter is to take their damn guns away. So, when we say “Defund the police,” we must include the demand to disarm the police immediately. Maybe there needs to be more emphasis on the gun because, yes, we should also defund the police, but that demand alone leaves them holding guns. Too much wiggle room for me.

## Study like George Jackson did

See, we have to get serious and study like George Jackson did.

Know who else George Jackson studied when he wanted to understand the nature of the police in this country? He studied Lenin, the leader of the Russian Revolution. Lenin understood that capitalism and its superrich monopolies that run things cannot survive without the police protecting the wealth they stole from you and me. To keep us from protesting that theft against us, police are used to keep us in fear as they push us further into poverty.

That right arm of capitalism — the police — will never be negotiated or voted away as long as capitalism exists, unless the ruling class is forced

to disband them by a mightier force than their cops and military.

We have the potential to become that force. Not by begging or playing within their rules, but by building the understanding of what's needed and doing the things that make their system come to a halt.

When we study history and social science in a serious way, as George Jackson did, we'll understand that demands must clarify what is actually needed to the people. We also need to understand that our Black, Brown and Indigenous communities must have the right to banish these pigs from our neighborhoods and the right to the resources to train and develop our own community entities of safety and protection.

We are in a war — a war from an oppressor that is attempting genocide against us. And when you are fighting genocide, you can't play nice. You gotta scrap, you gotta bite, you gotta do whatever is necessary and use any means to get that knee off your neck. That's the kind of Black revolutionary I am. What kind of revolutionary are you?

If you're the kind I think you are, then maybe we should talk. Maybe you should talk to the organizations with demands that are clear about what's needed. Get in touch so we can build that mighty force whose aim is to build a better world and take down this genocidal system. ■

# Now's the time: Join a revolutionary organization fighting for socialism

We all know that something is deadly wrong with this system. Capitalism is failing to meet the basic needs for human survival. If you're a member of the working class, you don't need a lecture from us telling you what you already know — especially if you're Black, Brown, an im/migrant, a woman or LGBTQ2S.

It would be good to know who allows this system to continue to cause massive death and poverty on the continent of Africa, in Yemen, Haiti and Puerto Rico, or to sabotage the economic welfare and threaten war against the people of Latin America. Why do the Democratic and Republican parties, both owned by the financial and industrial monopolies, enable this system to continue denying your parents, your neighbors

and your children the right to live without the fear of hunger, homelessness, sickness or the terrorism of racist police? And what is the most effective way to fight back?

Any organization that aspires to make revolutionary change in this country must not only answer those questions, but help communicate those answers to our entire working class.

And in building up the consciousness and independence of the working class, an organization worth joining must also actively help build unity among our class and among our progressive organizations, especially solidarity with the oppressed peoples most acutely affected by this racist capitalist system of war and poverty.

**The Socialist Unity Party/Partido de Socialismo Unido is serious about making revolutionary change.** That's why we use the well-tested science of social change, Marxism, to clarify what's needed in society. It's this science that helps us realize the overwhelming power of our class to take the reins of production, putting us, the majority, the poor, the unemployed, the gig workers — you and I, not the billionaires and the 1% — in charge of our lives.

It's no accident that the countries building socialism are the ones that have already stopped the rising tide of COVID-19 infections and are actively helping other countries fight the virus. They can do that because their production is not controlled by the rich, but by their respective

working classes. **That's what we need.**

But we're not just about understanding the science of society. Like Marx said, the point is to change it. That's why you'll find us in the streets from coast to coast, organizing marches, hosting car caravans, joining our communities in protest, holding educational webinars and meetings, and spreading the word with our publication, *Struggle-La Lucha*. But with your help, we can accomplish so much more.

So, if you're looking for a socialist group that is working towards building a revolutionary, united working-class movement in this society, then this is the organization for you.

Fill out the form at the link and let us know when we can reach out to you: [tinyurl.com/yax39mso](https://tinyurl.com/yax39mso). ■



# Marines retool for war on China

By Scott Scheffer

As the COVID-19 death toll in the U.S. approaches 120,000, the Trump administration is relying heavily on anti-China propaganda — including wild accusations, right-wing conspiracy theories and racist anti-Asian rhetoric that greenlit physical attacks and racist assaults against Asian Americans.

Trump and his ilk need to distract from their own disastrous response to the deadly pandemic, the deep capitalist recession, the epidemic of violent police racism and murder, and the brutality against protestors demanding justice for George Floyd. Slandering and attacking China became their chosen distraction.

But the animosity toward China isn't limited to mere rhetoric. There are calls to make China pay reparations, lawsuits against China by several U.S. states, investigations of the origins of the virus by intelligence agencies in Australia, Europe and the U.S., an effort by the Trump administration to forge an international alliance to further sabotage China, and a cutoff of funds to the World Health Organization.

The heightened animosity from the White House has prompted establishment media to reference the Cold War, when imperialist hostility meant the USSR, China, Cuba and other socialist countries were under constant threat of nuclear attack. And, in fact, the Pentagon is preparing for a war against China. The possibility of a military confrontation can't be ignored by anti-war forces in the U.S.

## Pentagon pivot to Asia long planned

The shift in U.S. military strategy toward targeting China precedes

the pandemic and the Trump administration. The re-orientation began when the Obama administration embraced then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's "pivot to Asia," which called for a stronger military presence in the South China Sea to challenge China and gain access to Asian markets. But the right-wing coup in Ukraine and Crimea's refusal to be part of the U.S. orbit, along with the war on Syria, ended up taking precedence.

Pentagon war planners are now going full-throttle to make up for lost time. As generals and admirals came to Congress in March to demand more money for war in the 2021 budget, it came to light that they were already thoroughly invested in preparations for all-out war against China. On March 5, Gen. David Berger, commandant of the U.S. Marines, outlined for the Senate Armed Services Committee a 10-year transition for the Marines that is already underway.

The Marine Corps is retooling for war against the People's Republic of China. For decades, the Marines have provided ground troops in the longest reign of imperialist death and destruction in U.S. history, in Afghanistan and Iraq. Now the plan is to leave that to the U.S. Army, and for the Marines to become a high-tech maritime force to operate more vigorously in the South China Sea and to augment the U.S. Navy.

The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) ended in August 2019, and the U.S. shunned efforts to replace it. Without that treaty in place, the Pentagon is preparing the



U.S. Marines conduct a simulated amphibious assault.

first phase of the Marine's transition — stocking up on previously prohibited, land-based cruise missiles.

A May 6 Reuters article reports that "having shed the constraints of

a Cold War era arms control treaty, the Trump administration is planning to deploy long-range, ground-launched cruise missiles in the Asia-Pacific region. ... The Marines will join forces with the U.S. Navy, using small mobile units armed with anti-ship missiles dispersed along the so-called first island chain — the string of islands that runs from Japan, through Taiwan, the Philippines and on to Borneo, enclosing China's coastal seas."

The transition means tanks and heavy weaponry are being dispensed with, and fewer F-35 aircraft for the smaller mobile Marine units. V-22 tiltrotor aircraft, helicopter units and shore-assaulting amphibious vehicles will be cut. According to a report by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the radical reshaping of the Marine Corps will transform it into a naval expeditionary force.

The Marine Corps will be redesigned to fight "within an adversary's" (read China's) "bubble of air, missile and naval power," according to Gen. Bergen. It will require small groups of less visible, newly designed warships, armed with drones currently in development — essentially jet-powered unmanned fighter jets — to function in small units with the ability to move independently and deploy in and around the South China Sea.

## U.S. rulers threatened by China's example

Military contractors like General Dynamics and Raytheon have made billions equipping the Marine Corp and drained funds from the U.S. Treasury that should have been used for people's needs. No doubt there will still be lucrative contracts for them, in addition to the billions that will likely be handed over to AeroVironment for the "lethal unmanned" drones and to Kratos Defense and Security for their jet-powered drones. General Dynamics, Lockheed Martin and Huntington Ingalls will all be vying for the billions it will take to build the new warships.

But this shift by the Pentagon is fueled by more than the usual siphoning off of Treasury funds by giant criminal corporations.

Regardless of concessions made to capitalism by the People's Republic of China over the years of its development, the Chinese Communist Party and the people of China set an example in the "People's War" against COVID-19. Their successful struggle against the disease trumpeted amazing advances in science and medicine, the superiority of centralized planning and how humanity is prioritized over profit. It is a victory in the battle for the consciousness of the worldwide working class.

A famous quote by the beloved leader of the Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro, goes: "A revolution is a struggle to the death between the future and the past." Our people's movement, strengthened enormously by the working-class explosion against police racist murders, has to be ready to defend socialism in China — the future. 📌

# Basque political prisoner on hunger strike for prisoners' health

By Iña Martínez

"The Basque Country? How come I've never heard of it?"

Someone in this country asked me that question several years ago after she detected my foreign accent and I told her where I came from.

I answered, "Maybe because we don't have oil." It was 2003, when the U.S. invaded Iraq.

The Basque Country ("Euskal Herria" in the Basque language) is a land occupied by two colonialist states: France and Spain. Geographically, the Basque Country is where the Pyrenees mountain range meets the Bay of Biscay.

We have many political prisoners as a consequence of a long struggle for freedom and socialism. Basque political prisoners are sent by the Spanish and French prison systems as far as possible from the Basque Country, to the farthest corners of Spain and France. Since the coronavirus hit Europe, our prisoners, like all prisoners everywhere, have been mistreated. The Spanish prison system made it an objective to punish them even further.

In the case of Basque political prisoner Patxi Ruiz, there were some

altercations and threats to his life from guards and the director of the prison in Murcia, where he is incarcerated. This was because he asked for the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) to keep the prisoners safe from COVID-19. Not only did they not listen to him, but they continued to threaten his life.

So a month ago he started a hunger and thirst strike. After the first 12 days, he is continuing only the hunger strike, but his health is deteriorating rapidly. And, of course, Spain and its prison system could not care less if he dies.

Nevertheless, there is a strong feeling of solidarity with Patxi Ruiz among other Basque political prisoners who followed his hunger strike, and outside the prison, in the Basque Country, where people are on hunger strikes in solidarity. On Ahotsa.info's YouTube channel, you can see some of the actions in solidarity with Patxi Ruiz.

## Justice for George Floyd and Elhadji Ndiaye

People in the Basque city of Iruñea (also known by the Spanish name Pamplona) have been holding solidarity actions with George Floyd



PHOTO: AHOTSA.INFO

Solidarity protest for hunger striking Basque political prisoner Patxi Ruiz.

and Elhadji Ndiaye, who was killed by Spanish occupation forces in October 2016 in a very similar manner. Iruñea is the capital city of Nafarroa, also the birthplace of Patxi Ruiz.

The Spanish police never answered the popular demand to explain why the young Senegalese Elhadji Ndiaye was first arrested for no reason and soon afterwards was dead in police headquarters in Iruñea. To this day, nobody knows the true facts and people are demanding answers.

As Basque activist Ainhoa Urru-

tia said: "We are prepared to defend them [oppressed peoples and prisoners] and fight for them against the oligarchical powers that pull the strings of fascism to perpetuate their privilege at the expense of our lives." And the truth is that Spain remains a fascist state under a monarchy that signed the principles of a fascist dictator in 1975.

From the Basque Country, we have always demonstrated our solidarity with the Black community in the U.S., the Palestinian people, the Saharawi people and all people worldwide living under occupation. And that solidarity is stronger than ever these days.

I happened to hear comedian and activist Lee Camp say something like this: "As long as you hate other people and other countries, you are distracted from placing your anger in what your government is doing to you." That is how governments use racism to divide people. We need to do the opposite and show solidarity with each other. We are many. They are few.

Free Patxi Ruiz and all political prisoners!

Free them all!

Put killer cops in prison! 📌



# Puerto Rican organizations: Decolonization can't wait!

**Message to the U.N. from Puerto Rican Independence Organizations**  
**Honorable Keisha Aniya McGuire**  
President, U.N. Decolonization Committee  
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador  
Permanent Mission of Grenada to the U.N.

Today, June 14, 2020, on behalf of the organizations of the National Liberation Movement of Puerto Rico and signatories of this declaration, we respectfully communicate to the honorable members of the U.N. Decolonization Committee the urgency with which the colonial case of Puerto Rico must be addressed as Puerto Rico remains under the imperialist rule of the United States.

Ever since the military invasion of Puerto Rico on July 25, 1898, the strategies of colonial rule have been implemented in accordance with the political-economic-strategic needs of the imperial power elites in Washington and to the detriment of the collective social welfare of the Puerto Rican nation.

Our country has historically been subjected to the most repressive strategies and techniques of manipulation and social control, among which include:

- a) A direct military government.
- b) Imposition of the English language in the education system.
- c) Persecution, jail and murders of men and women who confront and resist colonialism.
- d) Imposition of an economic model akin to looting by the imperial power in Washington.
- e) Compulsory military service so that our young people die in unjust U.S. wars.
- f) Imposition of massive sterilization of Puerto Rican women.
- g) Promotion of the mass exodus of our people.
- h) Abuse and plunder of our natural resources.
- i) Militarization of our national territory.
- j) Exploitation of our land and seas by using radioactive uranium dumps that have claimed the lives of hundreds of Puerto Ricans because of their carcinogenic effects.
- k) Imposition of a dictatorial board (called the fiscal control board) which imposes measures contrary to the well-being of our people and deteriorates rights achieved by our working class.

In this historic moment, the collapse of the imperialist colonial economic model is self-evident — a failed model sustained by excessive public indebtedness benefitting the interests of financial vultures — leading to disastrous economic outcomes and without a national economic development plan for production; an economy based mainly on the importation of goods from the imperialist power, tax exemptions for large foreign corporations and capital, promotion of mass emigration of our population, dismantling of the country's public educational system, privatization of the health care system and the dismantling of civil and labor rights, all causing both impoverishment and hunger in the population.

Against all that abuse and domination, our people have heroically struggled and resisted for the past 122 years. In confronting and fighting colonialism, we see its impact on the lives of our people, which is exponentially worsened when we confront forces of nature such as hurricanes, earthquakes and pandemics, while lacking the political and sovereign power to open our borders to international solidarity for effective disaster response.

Additionally, the parasitic and corrupt elites in control of the colonial government apparatus dedicate themselves to the looting of public funds and the material infrastructure of the country. Furthermore, our people have been subjected to the designs of a dictatorial Junta that constitutes the de facto government serving finance capital and imposed by forces of the imperial power stemming from Washington.

Against all this repression, the Puerto Rican people continue to fight and resist. In the summer of 2019, we wrote a glorious page in both national and international history, shaking off a puppet and corrupt governor who was forced to resign through the actions of a militant and indignant people. However, the unfinished agenda that raises the need to break the empire-colony relationship remains. The time has come to allow space for that new Puerto Rico, bidding to be born, to see the light and to flourish.

In the process of struggle and resistance, our people are discovering their capacity to bring about change, their right to have control over their own destiny, their possibilities of building the foundations of a diversified national economy, their proper and most efficient use of our



By Frente Independentista Puertorriqueño

land, their collective intellect, their human capital potential, and all with a wise policy of respect for the environment and its natural limits.

The organizations of the Puerto Rican National Liberation movement work from different theaters to establish a new country — we know how to create a representative power block that arises from all the collective outrage, and we will mobilize the forces of the people to confront and defeat the oppressor by all necessary means. An important component in our process of decolonization and national liberation is the support from the international community. It is important that this Decolonization Committee and the U.N. General Assembly remain vigilant, listening to our complaints and enforcing the statutes that declare colonialism an international crime and a crime against humanity.

Due to the aforementioned, we request that the U.N. Decolonization Committee conduct its 2020 hearing on the colonial case of Puerto Rico in whatever manner is deemed appropriate so that our claims are heard on behalf of our Nation.

- Signatory Organizations in Puerto Rico
- Comité de Solidaridad con Cuba de Puerto Rico
  - Frente Socialista de Puerto Rico
  - Jornada Se Acabaron las Promesas
  - Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño
  - Partido Revolucionario de l@s Trabajador@s Puertorriqueñ@s - PRTP-Macheteros
  - Movimiento Independentista Nacional Hostosiano
  - Movimiento Ñin Negrón.

Signatory organizations in the diaspora  
Frente Independentista Boricua and it's members:

- Comités de la Resistencia Boricua
  - El Grito
  - Friends of Puerto Rico Initiative
  - Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño de NY
  - Partido Nacionalista de Puerto Rico (Juntas NY y NJ)
  - (PRTP-Macheteros)
  - Puerto Ricans in Minnesota
  - Puerto Rico Me Llama
  - Unión Patriótica Boricua (Florida Central)
  - Virtual Boricua
- Source: ElFrentePR.org

## Organizaciones puertorriqueñas: ¡La descolonización no puede esperar!

Por Frente Independentista Puertorriqueño

Continúa de página 12

para decidir quienes entran y salen de nuestro territorio, sin control político-jurídico-económico efectivo.

Las elites parasitarias y corruptas en control del aparato de gobierno colonial se dedican al saqueo de fondos públicos y la infraestructura material del país. Sometido nuestro pueblo, además, a los designios de una Junta dictatorial que constituye el gobierno de facto del capital financiero, impuesto por fuerza del poder imperial de Washington.

El pueblo boricua está en pie de lucha y resiste. En el verano de 2019 escribió una gloriosa página en la historia nacional, al sacudirse de un gobernador títere y corrupto, obligado a renunciar por medio de la acción del pueblo militante e indignado. Quedando sin embargo la agenda inconclusa que plantea la necesidad de romper la relación imperio-colonia, para dar espacio a que ese nuevo Puerto Rico, que puja por nacer, vea la luz.

En el proceso de lucha y resistencia nuestro pueblo se va encontrando con su propia capacidad de producir cambios, de su derecho a tener control sobre su destino, de sus posibilidades de construir las bases de una economía nacional

diversificada, uso adecuado de sus tierras, la inteligencia colectiva, el potencial de sus recursos humanos y naturales, con una sabia política de respeto a los límites ambientales y naturales.

Las organizaciones del movimiento de Liberación Nacional Puertorriqueño que trabajamos desde diferentes frentes para construir un nuevo país, sabremos articular un bloque de poder que surja de toda la indignación colectiva y las fuerzas del pueblo para enfrentarles y derrotarlos en todos los terrenos, por todos los medios necesarios.

Un componente importante en nuestro proceso de descolonización y liberación nacional es el apoyo de la comunidad internacional. Es importante que este Comité de Descolonización y la Asamblea General de la ONU se mantengan vigilantes, escuchando nuestras denuncias de pueblo, expresándose, haciendo valer los estatutos que declaran el colonialismo como delito internacional y crimen contra la humanidad.

Por lo antes expresado le solicitamos al Comité de Descolonización de la ONU a que este año 2020, continúen efectuando las vistas sobre el caso colonial de Puerto Rico, sean estas virtuales, presenciales o de la manera que estimen pertinentes para que se escuche los reclamos libertarios de nuestra Nación.

- Organizaciones firmantes en Puerto Rico
- Comité de Solidaridad con Cuba de Puerto Rico
  - Frente Socialista de Puerto Rico
  - Jornada Se Acabaron las Promesas
  - Movimiento Independentista Nacional Hostosiano
  - Movimiento Ñin Negrón.
  - Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño
  - Partido Revolucionario de l@s Trabajador@s Puertorriqueñ@s - PRTP-Macheteros

Organizaciones firmantes en la Diáspora  
Frente Independentista Boricua y sus miembros:

- Comités de la Resistencia Boricua
  - El Grito
  - Friends of Puerto Rico Initiative
  - Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño de NY
  - Partido Nacionalista de Puerto Rico (Juntas NY y NJ)
  - (PRTP-Macheteros)
  - Puerto Ricans in Minnesota
  - Puerto Rico Me Llama
  - Unión Patriótica Boricua (Florida Central)
  - Virtual Boricua
- Fuente: ElFrentePR.org



# RECORDANDO A STONEWALL, ¡Unámonos contra el terror policial!

## Mensaje del Partido de Socialismo Unido

**A**brazando el significado auténtico del “espíritu de Stonewall”, el año pasado en la ciudad de Nueva York, la Coalición ‘Reclaim Pride’ (Recobrando el Orgullo Gay) organizó una enorme marcha, militante, multinacional, multi género y multigeneracional dirigida por jóvenes que reclamaban la esencia rebelde del levantamiento de 1969 fuera del Stonewall Inn en el vecindario de Greenwich Village.

Al demostrar el alto nivel de conciencia política que existe dentro de las comunidades LGBTQ2S y sus organizaciones, las demandas de los manifestantes de Reclaim Pride reflejaron no sólo cuestiones de preocupación inmediata para esas mismas comunidades, en particular, la violencia continua contra las personas trans, especialmente las mujeres trans de color, sino también las políticas imperialistas militaristas de los Estados Unidos, como los intentos en curso de derrocar al gobierno pro-socialista democráticamente elegido de Venezuela.

Y ahora, un año después, ese mismo alto nivel de conciencia es visible en las magníficas movilizaciones masivas de jóvenes contra el racismo y sus aliados en todos los rincones de este país

y, en manifestaciones dramáticas de solidaridad internacional en todo el mundo.


Los activistas LGBTQ2S están trabajando fuertemente para organizar muchas de estas acciones antirracistas y anti policía. Los ajustes necesarios por la pandemia de coronavirus han hecho que la organización del Orgullo Gay sea más difícil, pero el movimiento no se desalienta. En San Diego, por ejemplo, que tiene una gran marcha del Orgullo Gay cada mes de julio, la marcha misma ha sido cancelada para proteger a la comunidad del contagio. Pero, en un acto significativo de solidaridad con el levantamiento liderado por el pueblo negro contra la violencia policial, los organizadores locales del Orgullo han anunciado la prohibición de la participación de “fuerzas de seguridad del estado” en todas las actividades del Orgullo.

¡Solidaridad! Como debería ser ahora, el enfoque de las personas revolucionarias decentes en todo el mundo es evitar que la policía asesina racista de los Estados Unidos asesine a personas de color. Pero esa lucha también plantea cuestiones básicas de injusticia racial y de clase: la necesidad de educación gratuita de grados primarios a universidad para todos; atención médica de calidad gratuita, cuya falta ha sido expuesta por el alto nivel de muertes por COVID-19 entre las personas negras y marrones; vivienda digna y el derecho a trabajos

bien remunerados para todos. Merecen la atención especial de todos los que buscan un mundo justo el llamado a la compensación por la esclavitud y el reconocimiento del estatus colonial “settlers” de los Estados Unidos en tierras indígenas.

El movimiento de liberación LGBTQ2S y el movimiento de liberación Negra son aliados naturales. Ambos nacieron de la misma furia. Ambos comenzaron como una rebelión contra la brutalidad policial continua en una comunidad oprimida.

En un voto de 6-3, la Corte Suprema acaba de dictaminar que las personas LGBTQ2S están cubiertas por las protecciones de los Derechos Civiles contra el despido. Esta es una gran victoria y no es casualidad que dos jueces de derecha rompieran con Trump sobre este tema en este momento. Es por la rebelión liderada por el pueblo negro. ¡La lucha de los más oprimidos eleva las luchas de toda la clase trabajadora!

El Socialist Unity Party/Partido de Socialismo Unido saluda la creciente unidad entre las comunidades LGBTQ2S y el movimiento Black Lives Matter. El objetivo de abolir las injusticias económicas, políticas y sociales que afectan al mundo capitalista sólo puede superarse si se continúan construyendo estos puentes inspiradores de solidaridad y lucha. 

## Organizaciones puertorriqueñas: ¡La descolonización no puede esperar!

Por Frente Independentista Puertorriqueño

**Mensaje a la ONU de Organizaciones Independentistas Puertorriqueñas**  
**Honorable Si. Keisha Aniya McGuire**  
Presidenta, Comité de Descolonización de la ONU  
Embajadora Extraordinaria y Plenipotenciaria  
Misión Permanente de Granada en la ONU

Hoy 14 de junio del 2020, a nombre de las organizaciones del Movimiento de Liberación Nacional de Puerto Rico, firmantes de esta declaración, le comunicamos respetuosamente al honorable Comité de Descolonización de la ONU, que es urgente que se atienda el caso colonial de Puerto Rico, que permanece bajo el dominio imperialista de los Estados Unidos.

A partir de la invasión militar del 25 de julio de 1898, las estrategias de dominio colonial se han ido articulando de acuerdo con las necesidades político-económicas-estratégicas de las elites del poder imperial en Washington, en perjuicio del bienestar social colectivo de nuestra nación puertorriqueña.

Nuestro país, históricamente ha sido sometido a las más diversas estrategias y técnicas de manipulación y control social, entre las cuales podemos mencionar:

- Gobierno militar directo.
- Imposición del idioma inglés en el sistema de enseñanza.
- Persecución, cárcel y asesinatos de hombres y mujeres que se enfrentan y resisten al colonialismo.
- Imposición de un modelo económico de saqueo, al servicio de los intereses del poder imperial en Washington.
- Servicio militar obligatorio para que nuestros jóvenes mueran en guerras ajenas.
- Imposición de esterilización masiva de mujeres puertorriqueñas.
- Fomento del éxodo masivo de nuestra gente.
- Abuso y saqueo de nuestros recursos naturales.
- Militarización de nuestro territorio nacional.
- Uso de nuestros suelos y mares para practicas con artefactos y bombas de uranio radiactivo que cobro la vida de cientos de puertorriqueños/as por sus efectos cancerígenos.
- Imposición de una junta dictatorial (llama-



FOTO: FRENTE INDEPENDENTISTA PUERTORRIQUEÑO

da de control fiscal) la cual impone medidas contrarias al bienestar de nuestro pueblo y deroga derechos alcanzados por nuestra clase trabajadora.

En el presente momento histórico se hace evidente el colapso del modelo económico colonial, sustentado en el endeudamiento público desmedido, sometido a los intereses del capital financiero; sin un plan de desarrollo económico nacional de producción, basado principalmente en la importación de bienes, exenciones contributivas al gran capital extranjero, fomento de la emigración masiva de la población, así como el desmantelamiento acelerado del sistema educativo del país, la privatización del sistema de salud, el desmantelamiento de derechos civiles y laborales, generando un empobrecimien-

to acelerado y hambre en la población.

Contra todo ese andamiaje de abuso y dominación, nuestro pueblo ha luchado heroicamente durante los pasados 122 años. Al enfrentar y luchar contra el colonialismo vemos su impacto en la vida de nuestra gente, que se dramatiza exponencialmente cuando confrontamos fuerzas de la naturaleza como huracanes, terremotos y pandemias, sin poderes políticos para abrir nuestras fronteras a la solidaridad internacional, sin poder

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**STRUGGLE** ★ **LA LUCHA**  
*for Socialism* | *por el Socialismo*